

For this reason, I support bills like H.R. 292, the Stop the OverPrinting Act, which will help eliminate the wasteful production of unnecessary copies of bills and resolutions in Congress.

The STOP Act will not only do its part for the environment by reducing Congress' paper consumption, but it will also take a step, even if just a small one, towards more efficient operations, increased accountability and reduced government spending. As we are all aware in this economy, every little bit helps.

The STOP Act was introduced by my colleague from across the aisle, the honorable gentleman from New York, CHRISTOPHER LEE. I am happy to stand in bipartisan support and know that there will be many opportunities in the future to find common ground and remain accountable to the hard working citizens we represent.

In fact, I would like to mention one such opportunity I offered during the 111th Congress and which I plan to reintroduce in the 112th, the Cost Recovery and Fair Value for Services Act. This legislation will help us meet our obligation to the American people by ensuring that the federal agencies within the executive branch set their user fees for services provided at rates that are both equitable and cost-effective.

This act would require the chief financial officer of every federal agency to provide a report to the director of the Office of Management and Budget which would review fees charged for services provided and make recommendations based on equitability with consideration to a user's ability to pay and the extent to which the use of the service provides a public benefit.

By setting appropriate user fee rates, agencies can contribute to the shared fiscal responsibility that our current economic situation demands without overburdening the public or inhibiting public engagement.

It is my hope that when this legislation arrives on the House floor, colleagues from both parties will share the same bipartisan spirit I exhibit today and support my efforts to control wasteful spending and restore fiscal accountability.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FIRST FRIDAY GROUP

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, on January 7, 2011 the First Friday Group (FFG) of Matagorda County celebrated its 20th anniversary. I am pleased to extend my congratulations to the organizers of the FFG for 20 years of service to the people of Matagorda County.

FFG provides a monthly forum for the citizens of Matagorda County to discuss their activities and issues affecting their community. As the name suggests, FFG's meetings take place on the first Friday of the month at 6:30 a.m. The meetings are currently held at the Thyme & Again restaurant in Bay City, Texas. The meetings are open to the public, and anyone is free to participate. Attendance typically runs from 25 to 40 people.

FFG is in many ways a modern town hall meeting. Attendees typically include national,

state and local elected officials, representatives from the Matagorda County Chamber of Commerce, local business owners, developers, industrial plant managers, agriculture and agri-businesses, educators, religious leaders and state agencies.

The FFG meetings have two unique features that ensure everyone with something of interest to the community has a chance to participate. First, there is never a "program" or a set list of speakers chosen by the FFG. Instead, each meeting is conducted in a "Round the Room Format," that gives each attendee a chance to talk about their activities. Secondly, speakers are asked to limit their remarks to two or three minutes in order to make sure that everyone who wants to speak has the chance. While the time limits may appear to make it difficult to convey all relevant information about an activity, regular attendees say that most speakers can convey a remarkable amount of information in a very short period of time.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I once again extend congratulations to the founders and organizers of the First Friday Group for providing a forum for the citizens of Matagorda County to exchange information about their various projects which are aimed at improving life in Matagorda County.

EVERETT & DARLA SANDERSON

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to honor businessman and community leader Everett Sanderson and his wife Darla for their efforts on behalf of Southeast Texas, particularly for their assistance to first responders during the critical first days after Hurricanes Rita and Ike.

In the span of three short years, from 2005 to 2008, the upper Texas coast was struck by two monstrous hurricanes that caused billions of dollars of damage and took multiple lives. Countless homes and businesses were destroyed. Debris and downed trees and power lines filled the streets, making travel extremely dangerous. Power and water services were off. It was a dire situation, indeed.

Tens of thousands Southeast Texans evacuated to safer ground, but a handful of individuals rode the storm out in order to start the clean up and restoration immediately. These first responders worked unending shifts with little resources available. A hot meal was difficult to find, until the Sandersons stepped in and opened their damaged restaurant for the brave souls who decided to stay.

Everett Sanderson was born and raised in Nederland, TX. A 1985 graduate from Baylor University Law School, he has practiced in Jefferson County since. He is an active member of the community, serving on the Nederland Independent School Board of Trustees, Jefferson County Bar Association Board of Directors, and the Mid-County YMCA Board of Directors, among many others. He was named Mr. Nederland in 2006. Sanderson and his wife Darla have two children, Jordan and Michelle.

In 2003, the Sandersons found time to open a restaurant in Nederland, Sanderson's Res-

taurant and Bar. It was an instant hit, serving everything from seafood to barbeque to salads and everything in between. It was here, in the first hours after the hurricanes passed, that they decided to open their doors for first responders from the police, fire departments, Red Cross, FEMA, and other organizations. Pulling in resources from wherever they could, the Sandersons provided food and some peace of mind. One day during the aftermath of Hurricane Rita, they served over 6,500 first responders.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas, I would like to commend Everett and Darla Sanderson for their hard work and dedication to make the first responders feel at home during this trying time. The Sandersons' hearts are bigger than their chicken fried steak, and if you have seen their chicken fried steak, you would know that is quite the compliment.

And that's just the way it is.

CELEBRATING THE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, this Monday our Nation celebrated the life of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Together we honored Dr. King's legacy with a national day of service.

Dr. King taught us many important lessons during his life—the greatest of all being that violence and hatred will get us nowhere, but love, service, and kindness for our fellow man can guide our Nation to overcome its most considerable struggles. While Dr. King was motivated by a period of division in our Nation's history, we know today that his lessons transcend all challenges. In this spirit, we pay tribute to the life and works of Dr. King, through participation in community service on the third Monday of January, each year.

Mr. Speaker, I submit to the record the following piece by Ambassador of Service for the Corporation for National and Community Service MLK Day, my colleague from Georgia, the Honorable JOHN LEWIS, and CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service, Patrick Corvington, on the importance of national service.

Ever since former Sen. Harris Wofford and I introduced legislation in the Congress that transformed the King Holiday into a National Day of Service, one question periodically arises: Do Americans view the King Holiday primarily as a day on or a day off? Are they commemorating the legacy of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. with their extra time or simply getting extra sleep? Clearly, there are kids who will joyfully spend their day in front of their Xboxes, and shoppers who will rush to a department store sale on the holiday.

But as the life of Dr. King and the movement that he led demonstrate, ordinary people with extraordinary vision working in the corners of their communities can have an impact that reverberates throughout America. These tiny ripples of human compassion can build into waves that cleanse and heal the wounds of a Nation.